

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A paper discharging apparatus of an image forming apparatus to discharge papers, including a body having a paper outlet, an image being printed on the papers at the paper outlet, the paper discharging apparatus comprising:
 - a paper guide member which is movably disposed between first and second positions with respect to a paper discharging direction of the papers to stack the papers discharged from the paper outlet; and
 - a driving unit to selectively move the paper guide member between the first and second positions.
2. The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper guide member is pivotably mounted at the paper outlet, when the paper guide member is in the first position the papers drop to a first placing position from the paper outlet without being guided by the paper guide member, and when the paper guide member is in the second position, a lower surface of each of the papers contacts the paper guide member to place the papers at a second placing position which is further than the first placing position from the paper outlet.
3. The discharging apparatus of claim 2, wherein the paper guide member comprises:
 - a pivot shaft pivotably supported by the paper outlet;
 - a guide panel supported by the pivot shaft being exposed to an outside of the paper outlet, and contacted with the lower surface of the papers in the second position; and
 - a driving panel extended in a direction perpendicular to the guide panel to pivot in relation to the movement of the driving unit being interfered by the driving unit.
4. The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second placing positions of the discharged papers are determined according to a length of the paper guide member in the paper discharging direction.

5. The discharging apparatus of claim 3, wherein the guide panel comprises a pair of panels formed symmetrically.

6. The discharging apparatus of claim 3, wherein the guide panel moves to the first position by pivotingly falling from the second position due to a weight thereof, when the driving unit is turned off.

7. The discharging apparatus of claim 1, wherein the paper guide member comprises a driving panel and the driving unit comprises a solenoid to switch on/off to forcibly move the paper guide member to the first and second positions by interfering with the driving panel of the paper guide member.

8. An apparatus to discharge papers in a discharge direction, comprising:
a guide disposed between first and second guide positions to respectively stack the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising a driver to selectively move the guide between the first and second guide positions.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the guide comprises:
a shaft;
a first panel extending from the shaft to guide the discharged papers when the guide is in the first guide position; and
a second panel extending from the shaft to be moved by the driver.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the first panel has a greater length in a direction perpendicular to the shaft than the second panel, and the first panel moves due to a weight thereof when a force from the driver on the second panel is removed.

12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the discharged papers do not contact the guide when the guide is in the second guide position.

13. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the driver is a solenoid.
14. An image forming apparatus, comprising:
 - a body defining a paper outlet to discharge papers having images formed thereon in a discharge direction; and
 - a discharge apparatus to sort the discharged papers, comprising:
 - a guide disposed between first and second guide positions to respectively stack the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction, and
 - a driver to selectively move the guide between the first and second guide positions.
15. An apparatus to discharge papers in a discharge direction, comprising:
 - stacking means for stacking the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, disposed between first and second guide positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction.
16. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising drive means for selectively moving the stacking means between the first and second guide positions.
17. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the stacking means comprises:
 - a shaft;
 - a first panel extending from the shaft to guide the discharged papers when the stacking means is in the first guide position; and
 - a second panel extending from the shaft to be moved by the drive means.
18. An image forming apparatus, comprising:
 - discharging means for discharging papers having images formed thereon in a discharge direction; and
 - sorting means for sorting the discharged papers, comprising:
 - stacking means for stacking the discharged papers in first and second stacking positions, the first and second stacking positions being disposed relative to each other along the discharge direction, and

moving means for selectively moving the stacking means between first and second guide positions to respectively stack the discharged papers in the first and second stacking positions.